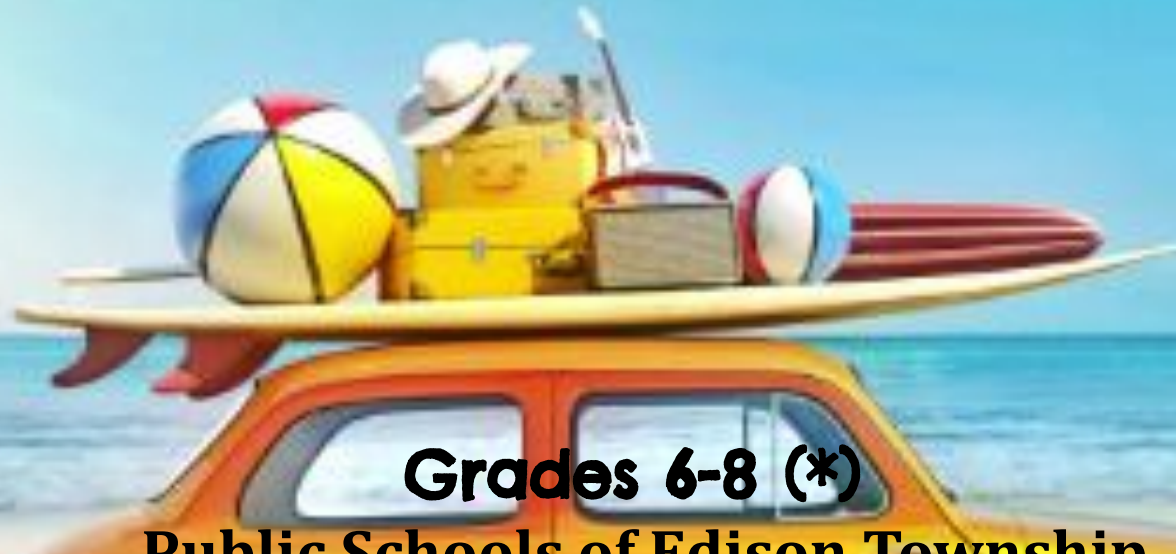


Middle School

SUMMER LITERACY CHALLENGE

2025



Grades 6-8 (*)

Public Schools of Edison Township

Parents and Students:

The Edison Middle School Summer Literacy Challenge offers students the opportunity to expand their learning through books and a variety of media platforms.

All students in Grades 6-8* are **expected** to read at least **TWO books** of **their choice**. There will be **NO** assignments or assessments. We want students to read solely for pleasure. When students return to school in September, they will share some of their favorite titles and takeaways with their peers. (*Students in **Grade 8 Accelerated** have a **different reading assignment- see below.**)

We know that students may want or need additional challenges over the summer. Therefore, we have provided several options to explore. However, no challenge goes unrewarded!

For every challenge students choose to tackle and master, they will **complete a form** in order to enter into their school's raffle. In September, we will pull winners from each school to receive prizes.

***Please note:** Students in **Grade 8 Accelerated** must read *The Outsiders* and complete a separate assignment from the one listed above (See [Slide 3](#)). However, they *may* also choose to complete the additional challenges.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lisa Dunn, MS English Supervisor, via gmail: lisa.dunn@edison.k12.nj.us

Happy Reading!

[Grade 8 Accelerated Assignment](#) (Click on either link to access the texts, organizer, and assignment)




You are required to read [*The Outsiders* \(S.E. Hinton\), "Nothing Gold Can Stay" \(Robert Frost\), and ONE nonfiction article as your summer reading requirement.](#) You are expected to be familiar with the details of all the texts and to come prepared with your one-pager and written response on the first day of instruction.

Select ONE of the following essential questions to guide your reading of *The Outsiders*, "Nothing Gold Can Stay," and one of the nonfiction articles.

- What is social justice?
- How do we form our personal identities?
- What do we learn about ourselves through hardship?
- How do our choices impact us and those around us?

Create a one-pager that responds to the selected question and incorporates the required elements. ([See requirements, templates, models, and rubric](#))

WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6th grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Nagy and Herman, 1987.)

WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.

Summer Literacy Goal for ALL* Students :

Select and read TWO books--your choice!!

Consider...

- A book suggested by a friend
- A book you own but have not read yet
- A book about someone different than you
- A book by a #diversebooks author
- A book genre you typically do not read

You will receive TWO chances for completing this goal.--one per book.

Completion Form.

***Grade 8 Accelerated students** must read *The Outsiders* and complete the assignment .



Need some book suggestions????

Grade 6 Themes :

- Finding Your Voice
- Using your voice
- Appreciating and Learning from Unique Voices
- Using Your Voice to Explore Your World and

Grade 7 Themes:

- Inventing and Testing Yourself
- Fitting In and Moments of Insight
- Risking It All; Shared Dreams ; and, Multiple Perspectives
- Shared Ideas

Grade 8 Themes :

- Social Justice and Identity
- Identity and Perspective
- Perspective and Individual Responsibility
- Individual Responsibility and Community

Need additional suggestions? Visit [Bookopolis](#) for more booklists: [Grade 6](#), [Grade 7](#), [Grade 8](#)

"THERE'S NO SUCH THING
AS A KID WHO HATES
READING. THERE ARE KIDS
WHO LOVE READING, AND
KIDS WHO ARE READING
THE WRONG BOOKS."
JAMES PATTERSON



Just gotta find what you like :)

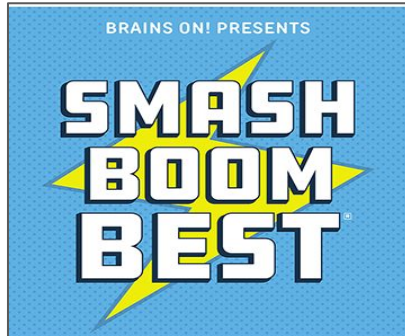
Are you ready TO BECOME a LIT NINJA???



If you have already met the goal of reading TWO books and are ready for additional **L**iteracy challenges--and a chance to win more prizes--- continue to the following slides. For each completed challenge, you will receive a raffle ticket in September. We will pull three winners from each building: HHMS, JAMS, TJMS, and WWMS.

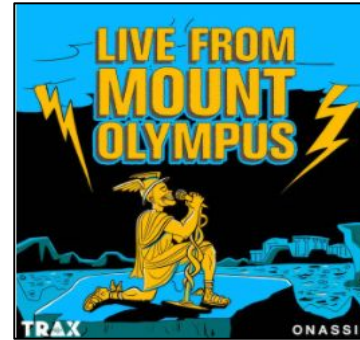
Podcasts

(Can be accessed through student Chromebooks or devices): Listen to at least **60 minutes** of your favorite podcast topics. Challenge yourself to explore unknown topics and learn something new! (Click on the icons below for the links to these sites.)



Completion
Form

More PODcasts...



Completion
Form.

TED Talks: Watch 60 minutes of any of the following TED Talks. Challenge yourself by exploring topics that may be unknown to you or help you gain a new perspective. [Completion Form.](#)

BEST EDUCATIONAL
Ted Talks

**9 TED Talks recommended by
students, for students**

By Annie Brodsky on March 16, 2017 in TED-Ed Clubs



**There are many more TED talks,
but these sites will provide a
great place to start!**

[Great TED Talks](#)

to Use with
Middle Schoolers
and Other Ages,
Too (Pernille
Ripp picks)

**INSPIRING
GROWTH
MINDSET
TED
TALKS
FOR KIDS**

IN THE NEWS...

Read at least **10** articles on Newsela. Sign in through Classlink (directions below). Challenge yourself to explore unknown topics and learn something new!

You should see this icon on your [Classlink](#)

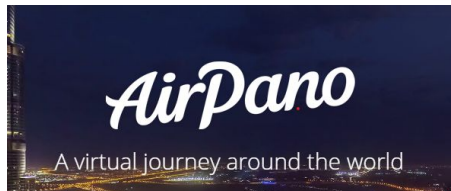
- After clicking on the link, **use your Edison username and password** to access the dashboard.
- Click on the icon and begin your exploration.

If you have difficulties signing into Newsela, please contact Mrs. Dunn (lisa.dunn@edison.k12.nj.us)



[Completion Form.](#)

Virtual Field Trips. Travel this year...from your living room or kitchen table! Take a tour of at least four different places. Be an adventurer and explore unknown places and learn something new! (Click on the icons below for the links to these sites.)



Books! Books! Books!

Can't get enough of a good book????

Read **two** more books of your choice.

This challenge is worth 2 additional tickets--one per book!

Completion Form.



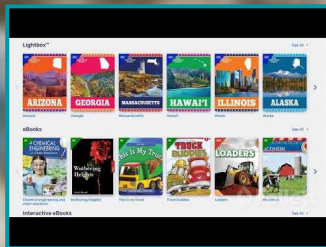
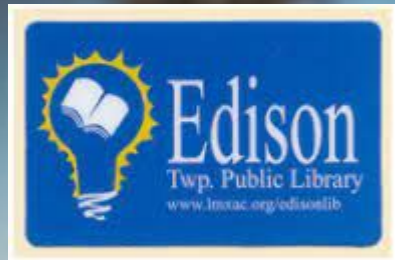
R K-8 RUTGERS READING PROGRAM



- Students receive complimentary tickets to select football games
- Friends and family can purchase discounted tickets as low as \$10!

[CLICK HERE
FOR DETAILS](#)

Tutorial



**Ebooks/Audiobooks
Available from your
School Library**

Username = ID #

Password = school device password

HIGH SCHOOLS

[Edison High School](#) - [Doreen Stocker](#)

[JP Stevens High School](#) - [Shari Stein](#)

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

[Herbert Hoover Middle School](#) - [Christine McAvoy](#)

[Thomas Jefferson Middle School](#) - [Jessica Volk](#)

[Woodrow Wilson Middle School](#) - [Tamara Richman](#)

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